

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 DHA-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05

H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 COME-00 EB-08 FRB-03

TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 AF-10

/110 W

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FM AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6635

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP (ANDREW YOUNG), UNGA, SHUM, JM

SUBJECT: HUMAN RIGHTS-JAMAICAN VIEWS

1. FOREIGN MINISTER PATTERSON, IN AN OVERVIEW OF FOREIGN POLICY MATTERS, MENTIONED WITH APPROVAL THE EMPHASIS ON HUMAN RIGHTS, BUT SUGGESTED TWO AREAS OF CONCERN OF THE GOJ: (1) THAT ECONOMIC RIGHTS MUST BE CONSIDERED AS IMPORTANT AS ANY OTHER FORM OF HUMAN RIGHTS, AND THE FAILURE TO DO SO WOULD RESULT IN A DISTORTION OF THE WHOLE ISSUE, AND (2) THAT IT MUST BE RECOGNIZED THAT HUMAN RIGHTS CAN BE REALIZED UNDER MANY DIFFERENT FORMS OF POLITICAL SYSTEMS, AND THAT NO ONE SYSTEM HAS ANY MONOPOLY IN THE REALIZATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS. IN A LATER CONVERSATION, FRANK FRANCIS (IN CHARGE OF MULTILATERAL RELATIONS OF THE FONMIN) WAS ASSURED THAT THE U.S. FULLY SUPPORTED THESE POINTS.

2. FRANCIS RAISED AS A MATTER OF "DEEP CONCERN" THE QUESTION OF THE CONSEQUENCES FOR THE WHOLE UN SYSTEM" OF A U.S. WITHDRAWAL FROM THE ILO, AND EXPRESSED HIS HOPE THAT THE U.S. WOULD FIND SOME WAY TO STAY IN THE ORGANIZATION.

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3. FRANCIS WAS INTERESTED IN THE ATTEMPTS OF THE USG, AS EXPRESSED IN THE SPEECHES OF THE PRESIDENT, THE SECRETARY, AMBASSADOR YOUNG AND OTHERS, TO DEVELOP A HUMAN RIGHTS STRATEGY. WHEN QUERIED ABOUT THE POSSIBLE WAYS IN WHICH THE UN COULD RESPOND TO THE DETERIORATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN UGANDA, HE RESPONDED THAT ALMOST ALL THE AFRICAN NATIONS

HAD DIFFICULTIES IN PUBLICLY TAKING AN ATTITUDE OF DENUNCIATION, AND THAT FOR THIS PURPOSE JAMAICA WAS CONSIDERED AN "OUTSIDER" ALMOST AS MUCH AS THE U.S. PRIME MINISTER MANLEY HAD SPOKEN OUT RECENTLY IN LONDON ABOUT THE ATROCITIES IN UGANDA. FRANCIS SUGGESTED THAT LEADERSHIP SHOULD COME FROM AN AFRICAN COUNTRY, PREFERABLY TANZANIA.

4. FRANCIS INDICATED A GENERAL SYMPATHY FOR THE USG'S SEARCH FOR VIABLE HUMAN RIGHTS INITIATIVES AT THE UPCOMING GA, AND PROMISED A RESPONSE ON THE PARTICULAR PROPOSALS (THE PROPOSED U.S. RESOLUTION ON TORTURE, AND THE CONSENSUS RESOLUTION ON THE HIGH COMMISSIONER) THAT WERE FURNISHED TO HIM BY USUN OFFICERS. HE INDICATED THAT JAMAICA HAS NO PROBLEM WITH THE HIGH COMMISSIONER IDEA. FRANCIS SHOWED RELUCTANCE TO LEND SUPJVRT TO THE TORTURE PROPOSAL, BUT DID NOT SPECIFICALLY STATE THAT JAMAICA WOULD NOT SUPPORT IT. HE QUESTIONED WHY THE U.S. CHOSE TO GIVE PRIORITY TO THE TORTURE ISSUE AND NOTED THAT IF WOULD BE A SENSITIVE ISSUE TO MANY COUNTRIES.
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